



Girls Play Sports! pages 4 & 5

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A FREE PAPER FOR FREE KIDS

ISSUE #24 • MARCH/APRIL 2010

## Struggling to Survive in Haiti

### As Rains Roll In, Help Still Not Reaching the People

#### A 'Children's Emergency'

When ten U.S. missionaries tried to take 33 children out of Haiti without the right documents, they were arrested and accused of kidnapping. Many of the children had parents who were still alive. A Haitian judge later cleared most of the missionaries of charges after hearing from the children's parents that they had willingly given over their children.

Illegal adoption and kidnapping are just two of the many problems that Haiti's children have faced since the earthquake. Many children remain in hospitals unclaimed and unsure if their parents are still alive. In addition to the homes that were ruined in the earthquake, around 90 percent of the schools in and around the city of Port-au-Prince have been damaged or destroyed.

Delivering aid for children is critical because the crisis in Haiti is a children's emergency," said UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) Executive Director Ann M. Veneman.

#### How Haiti Became Poor and Stays Poor

Bad luck isn't the reason why Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere. For hundreds of years, Spain, France and then the United States have invaded and occupied Haiti and made huge profits off the land and people. France became rich using slave labor to produce goods such as coffee, sugar and wood. Later, the United States made large sums of money by controlling Haiti's banking system and debts.

Now the U.S. government and the institutions it dominates, such as the World Bank, are planning to set up more low-wage jobs in Haiti making clothes for Gap and Levi as well as other manufactured goods. The minimum wage in Haiti is less than \$3 a day.

"If we are serious about helping we need to stop trying to control Haiti's government, to pacify its citizens, and to exploit its economy," wrote Peter Hallward, author and professor at Middlesex University, in *The Guardian* newspaper. "And then we need to start paying for at least some of the damage we've already done."



**MILLIONS IN NEED:** The Haitian people remain in need of food, water, shelter and medical care following the January 12, 2010, earthquake. The quake left 300,000 people dead and 1,500,000 people homeless. As the rainy season approaches there is an urgent need for shelter. In addition, the country predicts mudslides and spread of disease due to the heavy rain.



**HELPING OR HURTING?** The U.S. military has sent 15,000 troops to Haiti since the earthquake, but many organizations and governments criticized their presence saying they delayed emergency aid. Days after the quake, Doctors Without Borders say they tried to bring in 85 tons of medical and relief supplies, but their plane was turned away at the main airport, which is under U.S. military control.

By INDYKIDS STAFF



## Meet... Duckens from Haiti

**Name:** Duckens Richmond

**Age:** 10

**Hometown:** Delmas 32, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

**Languages spoken:** French and Haitian Creole

**How many people live with you?**: Six

**Parent's work:** They don't work.

**Favorite foods:** Rice and porridge, spaghetti, ketchup and other things

**Favorite subject in school:** Mathematics, because I find it easy.

**Favorite activities:** Playing basketball, soccer and riding bikes

**How have you been affected by the earthquake?**: It changed me in the way that I used to be with my mom. When my mom used to tell me to go clean up my room or go drop something in the trash, I used to get upset. But now, I'm kinda like, 'Okay, it's good. I will.' I behave so that the earth won't tremble with me again. My house didn't fall, but it got damaged.

**Is there anything you think kids in the U.S. should know about kids in Haiti?**: They should know that we're good kids.



## Haiti at a Glance

**Location:** Haiti occupies 1/3 of Hispaniola, an island in the Caribbean.

**Capital:** Port-au-Prince

**Population:** 9,035,536

**People:** 95% are of African descent; 5% are of European and mixed descent

**Languages:** French and Haitian Creole

**Poverty rate:** 80%

## Learn a little HAITIAN CREOLE

**Alo:** hello

**Orevwa:** goodbye

**Liv:** book

**Tranbleman tè:** earthquake

**Lil:** island

PROFILE AND PHOTO BY GRANT FULLER,  
"HAITI AT A GLANCE" AND "LEARN A LITTLE  
HAITIAN CREOLE" BY MAYA DAVIS, AGE 13

For more articles about Haiti, go to [IndyKids.org](#)

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### WHAT IS INDYKIDS?

IndyKids is a free newspaper and teaching tool that aims to inform children on current news and world events from a progressive perspective and to inspire in children a passion for social justice and learning.

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2,000,000

This is the number of people worldwide who have been forced out of their homes in preparation for the Olympics in the last twenty years.

# nation&world

## Canadians Protest Olympic Games

By BILL MARSH

**N**ot everyone thinks the Olympics are fun and games. In mid-February, activist groups in Vancouver, Canada, took to the streets to protest the Winter Olympics. Members of Six Nations, a group of indigenous people in Canada, objected to the use of Native Lands for the Olympics.

Protestors marched, held rallies and chased the Olympic torch through the streets to show their opposition. Activists also blocked a major street in downtown Vancouver to slow traffic to and from Olympic events. "They're creating a false illusion that Canada is good and has positive relations with our people," said Melissa Elliott of Six Nations in a *Democracy Now!* interview. Elliott added that Native lands were stolen from her people. "This land was never surrendered," she said. Much of that land has been used to build structures for the Winter



NO2010.COM

Protesters in Vancouver, Canada, dispute Olympics on Native land.

### Olympic Games.

People's rights groups in Vancouver also objected to the negative effects that the Olympic Games have on housing, especially among the poor. In the cities where the Olympics are held, many people are pushed out of homes and communities in order to open space for Olympic development. In 2007, the Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions reported that more than two million people worldwide have been forced out of their homes in

preparation for the Olympics in the last twenty years. Past Olympic cities include Beijing (China), Torino (Italy) and Athens (Greece).

The Canadian people paid \$6 billion in taxes to host the Olympics. Some protesters objected to this cost when corporations sponsoring the Olympics reap the majority of benefits in profits. Corporate sponsors of the Olympics include Coca-Cola, McDonald's, Visa and General Electric.

## A 'Common Sense' Budget?

By OCTAVIA DAVIS

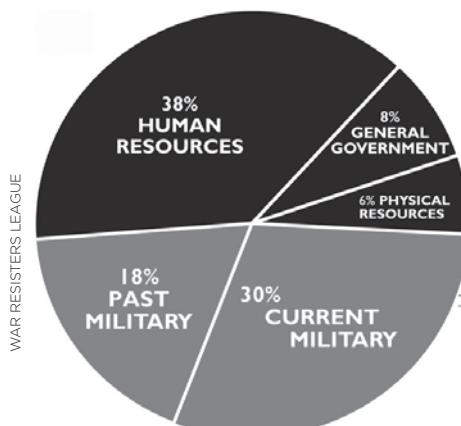
**O**n February 1, President Obama released his budget for next year. He says the new budget will use "common sense" to fix some of the financial problems facing the country. He plans to freeze (stop increases to) many programs here in the United States, while allowing others, like spending for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, to increase. He hopes to "invest in our people without leaving them a mountain of debt."

Every year on April 15, most United States residents pay income taxes. These taxes provide money for such items as highways, healthcare for the elderly, schools, job training and the military. However, taxes and other income do not pay for everything, so the government often

borrow money.

Should the government borrow money and go into further debt, or should it have a "balanced budget"? According to Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Prize-winning economist, who spoke on the *Democracy Now!* news program, "(I)t makes perfect sense for us to borrow to create jobs today and to get more tax revenues [money] in the future, and our national debt will actually be lower if we spend more money now."

Many anti-war organizers, like Ed Hedemann of the War Resisters League, think that the president's spending priorities should be different. "I don't think that the government should spend into debt. It doesn't have to be that way because of all the spending on the military."

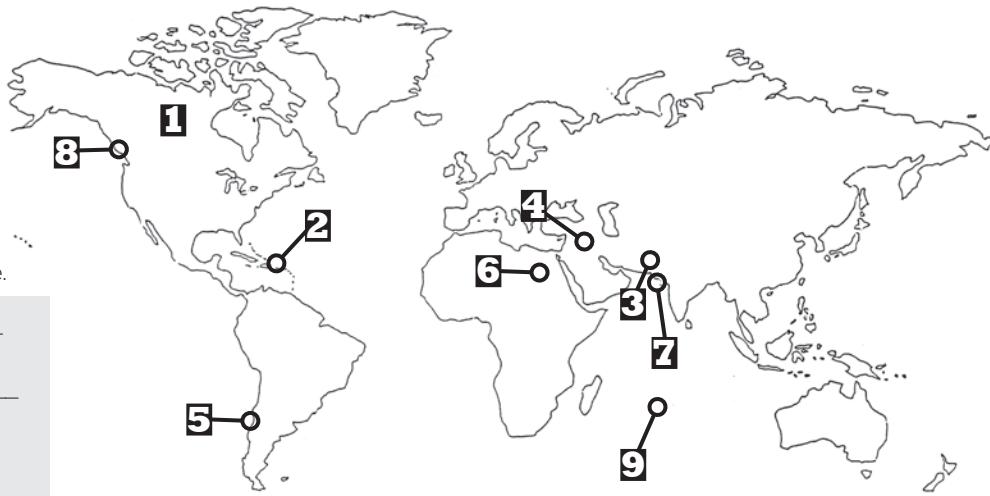


WHERE OUR TAX DOLLARS GO: This pie chart is based on President Obama's budget proposal for the year 2011. The new budget will not become law for almost a year because Congress must study and approve it before returning it to the president for signing into law.

# Where in the World?

All the places listed below are mentioned in this issue. Can you match them with their general location on the world map at right? Answers are at the bottom of this page.

a) Haiti \_\_\_\_\_ g) Egypt \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) Afghanistan \_\_\_\_\_ h) Iraq \_\_\_\_\_  
 c) Vancouver \_\_\_\_\_ i) Pakistan \_\_\_\_\_  
 d) Canada \_\_\_\_\_  
 e) Chagos Islands \_\_\_\_\_  
 f) Chile \_\_\_\_\_



## Spotlight on the War in Afghanistan

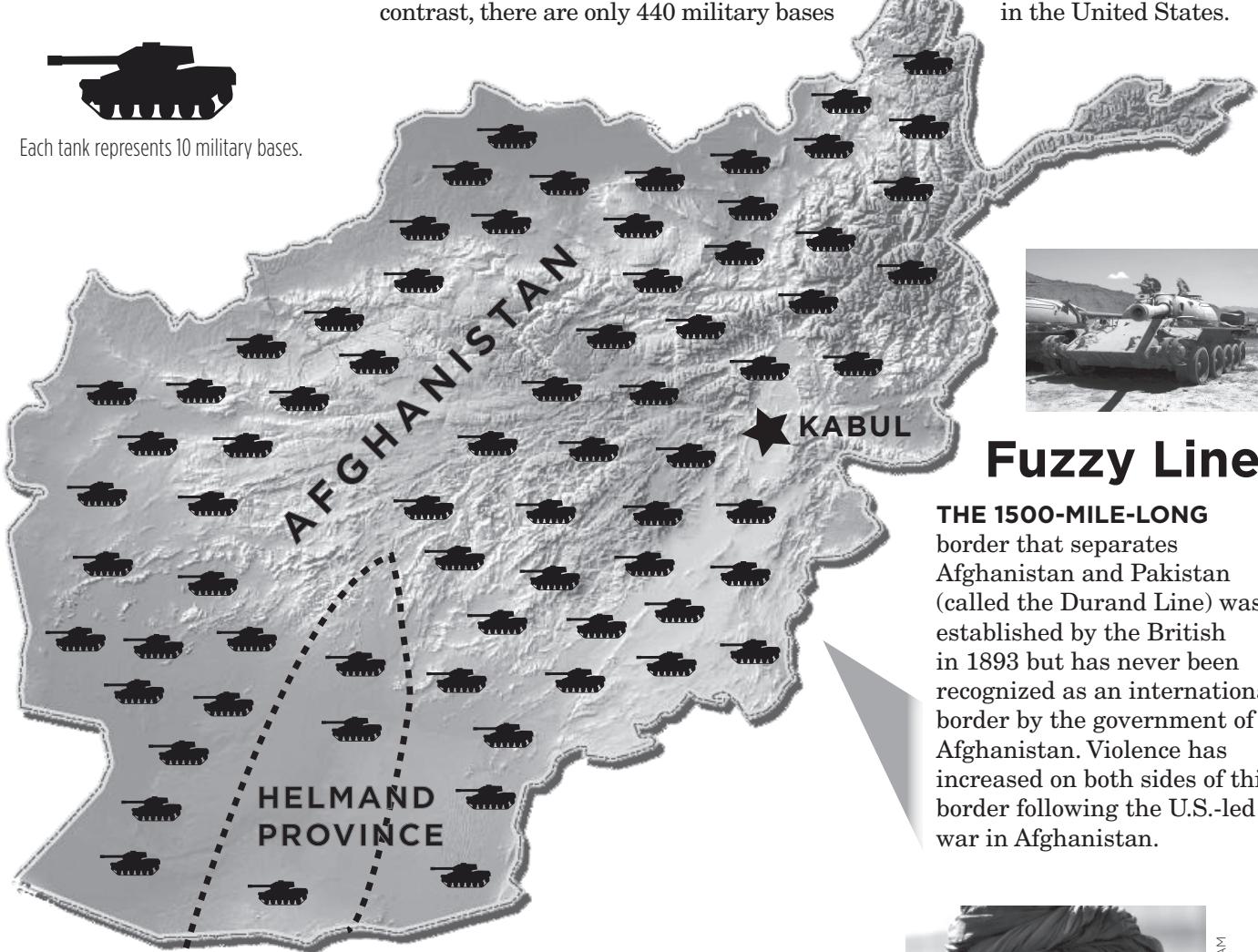
By JYOTHI NATARAJAN



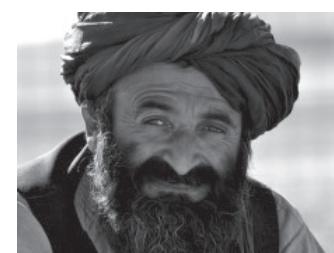
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### The Hidden World of U.S. Military Bases in Afghanistan

A REPORT published in TomDispatch.com in early February revealed that there are now 400 U.S. and NATO military bases in Afghanistan and another 300 Afghan military bases, which are supported by the United States. These 700 bases range in size and cost billions of dollars to operate. By contrast, there are only 440 military bases in the United States.



### New U.S. Attack on Afghanistan



UK FORCES MEDIA OPS TEAM

**DEFINITIONS**  
**NATO:** North Atlantic Treaty Organization. A U.S.-led military alliance.  
**Taliban:** A strict Islamic group that controlled Afghanistan from 1996-2001. President Obama accuses this group of threatening U.S. security.

ON FEBRUARY 12, 2010, the United States launched one of the largest military attacks of the war in Afghanistan. More than 15,000 U.S. and NATO troops invaded the Taliban-controlled Helmand province in southern Afghanistan.

A total of 28 civilians (non-military people) were killed as a result of the attack, including 13 children. The Italian humanitarian organization, Emergency, has reported that many injured civilians are not able to reach the nearest hospital due to U.S. military blockades.

## newsbriefs

### Trail of Dreams



Four immigrant Latino college students are walking from Miami to Washington, D.C., as part of a five-month campaign to call attention to the struggles undocumented immigrants face with deportation, family separation and the desire for an education. Undocumented immigrants have no legal permission to be in the United States, but many have been here since they were kids. The students say, "We walk to share our stories, so that everyday Americans understand what it's like for the millions of immigrants, especially young people, unable to fully participate in society."

### Hot Year

The year 2009 tied as Earth's second warmest year since 1880, when thermometers first became widely used. The very warm temperatures of 2009 occurred even though North America experienced a very cool December. "There's a contradiction between the results... and popular perceptions about climate trends," said James Hansen of NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) who conducted the temperature study. "Global warming has not stopped."

### Chile Earthquake



When an earthquake struck Chile on February 27, it was 500 times more powerful than the one that struck Haiti, but a lot fewer people died. People who study earthquakes say the reason is that Chile followed rules for constructing buildings that could hold up in an earthquake. In Haiti, an extremely poor country, buildings were built cheaply and crumbled easily.

### War Protest Song

Iraq War veteran Marc Hall wrote a rap song to express his opposition to the stop-loss policy that allows the Army to keep soldiers in the military after the end of their contracts. Hall was put in jail in December 2009 for threatening military officers because of the song. In the song, he shows how stop-loss is a trap: "If I do drugs, I'll get kicked out, but if my time is up I can't get out." Many of Hall's supporters are protesting the Army's recent decision to send Hall back to Iraq to face a military court.

# Girls for EQUAL Play

By AMANDA VENDER

**B**ack in 1971, only 7.5 percent of high school athletes were girls, according to the U.S. Department of Education. By 2006, 41 percent of high school athletes were girls. This change has improved the quality of life for millions of women and girls around the country. Research shows that women and girls who play sports are far more likely to feel good about themselves and their bodies.

How did so many more girls get interested in sports? A lot of it had to do with a law passed in 1972 called Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 banned racial discrimination and segregation in schools and public places. Title IX added banning discrimination based on sex. The law says: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance..." Because of Title IX, schools and universities could no longer have a different door for girls and boys to enter buildings, and they could not prevent girls from taking certain courses like auto mechanics and boys from taking home economics.

While the new law didn't say anything about sports, Title IX wound up having a huge impact on athletics. Before Title IX, much more public money was going to sports programs for boys than for girls. With Title IX, equal opportunities regarding sports, including access to quality equipment, facilities and training, had to be offered to boys and girls.

## Did You Know...?

1. Schools cannot use a myth that "boys are more interested in sports than girls," to justify providing more participation opportunities for boys than girls? There is no research that shows that boys are more interested in sports than girls.
2. A girl must be allowed to try out for the boys' team if there is no girls' team for her in that sport? (According to the Title IX Policy Interpretation)
3. In picture books for young readers, we see girls and women participating in sports activities a lot less than boys?

(Women's Sports Foundation)

## Equal Play Still Far Away

Today, just one out of three high school girls plays sports compared to one out of two high school boys. Not only that, but the sports world is packed with degrading comments and images of women in commercials and the media. "Thus, we have not yet reached the Title IX goal of gender equity," says Women's Sports Foundation.



GABRIELA SZPUNT  
2010

# SOME WOMEN SPORTS TRAILBLAZERS

Trailblazers source: *A People's History of Sports in the United States*, by Dave Zirin (2008)



### Mildred Ella "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias (1911-1956)

A multisport star, Zaharias won three medals in track and field in the 1932 Olympics and later went on to be a golf star. A journalist asked Babe, "Is there anything at all you don't play?" She responded, "Yeah, dolls."



### Alice Coachman (born 1923)

In 1948, Coachman became the first African American woman to win an Olympic gold medal (in high jump). She was a prominent athlete of the 1940s and went on to establish the Alice Coachman Track and Field Foundation to give assistance to young athletes.



### Billie Jean King (born 1943)

A tennis star and women's rights activist, King founded the Women's Sports Foundation. After King won the U.S. Open in 1972 and received \$15,000 less in prize money than the winning male player, she called for a strike (refusal to play) by women players if the prize money wasn't equal the following year. In 1973, the U.S. Open offered equal prize money for men and women, the first major sports competition to do so.

Photo by David Shankbone



### 1999 Women's U.S. National Soccer Team

Before the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, women soccer players were earning only \$1,000 a month with a bonus if they won the gold medal. The men would get a bonus whether or not they won. The team decided to go on strike refusing to report to practice and won its demands. The team went on to reach out to fans, conducting soccer clinics for girls around the country. They won the gold at the 1999 World Cup.

Team member Shannon MacMillan. Photo by John Mena



### The Rutgers University Women's Basketball Team

In 2007, as the team competed in the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship, they were called racist and sexist names by radio host Don Imus. The team and its coach, C. Vivian Stringer, spoke out against the comments and helped get Don Imus fired.

Coach C. Vivian Stringer. Photo by jimpoz@en.wikipedia



## Dinosaurs in Color



FLICKR, MARJORIE LIPAN

In January, Chinese and British scientists reported in *Nature* the first evidence of dinosaur color. They discovered microscopic pigment structures similar to those in birds' feathers, and found that one dinosaur had orange-brown tail feathers. When they matched the shapes to colors, they discovered that one dinosaur had orange-brown bristly tail feathers. Paleontologist Laurence M. Witmer of Ohio University says, "We might be able to start painting a picture in color of what these things looked like."

## Sea-Slug Chefs

Scientists have discovered that a lowly sea slug has the amazing ability to produce its own food, just as plants do. The slugs' favorite food is algae, and inside the algae cells are chloroplasts. These chloroplasts, together with chlorophyll, make food from water and carbon dioxide. Slug studies knew that sea slugs grabbed chloroplasts from algae, but the big surprise is that they can manufacture their own chlorophyll.

## Wildlife Protected, Not People

The British government wants to establish a Marine Protected Area in the Chagos Islands, located in the Indian Ocean. The area has many unique plants and animals

and the world's largest coral reef. The problem is that no one consulted the Chagos-sians who lived on the islands for 150 years until they were thrown out in the 1960s so the United States could build a military base. They are fighting to return home claiming that they are the best ones to help monitor and enforce a Marine Protected Area.

## What Killed King Tut?



FLICKR, IRONMANIXS

Although the cause of Egypt's King Tutankhamun's death is unclear, recent findings show that he had malaria when he died at 19. Malaria is a disease transmitted by mosquitoes that can cause death. Scientists in Egypt recently extracted DNA from the mummy, which tested positive for malaria and other disorders. Other researchers accept that the young king had malaria but believe he died from a chariot fall.

60

That's the number of minutes of physical activity kids should do every day (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

## culture&amp;activism

Not Paying Wages is Fishy Business  
Immigrant Workers Win Campaign Against Seafood Company

BRIAN PALMER, NORTH STAR FUND.

Brandworkers International Members. Workers for Wild Edibles get to work at 2:00 AM to count, cut and package fish and get it out in trucks by morning.

By XAVIER TAYO

**B**randworkers International, a New York-based group that defends the rights of food and store workers, won its case against the seafood company Wild Edibles. The two dozen workers, who cut, package and deliver fish to restaurants and markets, said that they were not paid for the additional hours they worked.

The settlement of \$340,000 will pay for unpaid overtime hours as well as money for workers who were fired for asserting their rights. Wild Edibles also committed to respect all workplace laws including health and safety for its workers.

In turn, Brandworkers promised to end its two-year boycott campaign that persuaded over 75 New York City restaurants to boycott

(not buy) seafood from Wild Edibles, causing the seafood company to file for bankruptcy (legally declared out of money).

The workers, all but one of whom are immigrants, used community organizing in an effort to defend their legal rights at Wild Edibles.

"In this economic downturn, it's more important than ever that workers' rights are respected and wage theft is not tolerated," said Cesar Barturen, a former driver at Wild Edibles and a member of Brandworkers.

"We're on top of the world today because more than anything we showed that ordinary workers can get organized, take action together and win."

—Raymundo Lara Molina, former Wild Edibles employee and member of Brandworkers

## A People's Historian: Howard Zinn Dies At 87

By ZAZIL DAVIS-VAZQUEZ

**H**oward Zinn, an anti-war activist, historian, playwright and author of over 20 books, including *A People's History of the United States*, died on January 27, 2010, of a heart attack. Zinn was famous for writing about ordinary people who fought against injustice.

Zinn was born in 1922 and raised in Brooklyn, New York. His parents were Jewish immigrants from Europe.

As a young man in the 1940s, he joined the military. During World War II, he dropped bombs in Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary. After the war, he went to two universities in New York City, studying history and political science.

When he finished college, he got a job as a professor at a his-



GREG FEDERMAN

torically Black women's college in Atlanta, Georgia, called Spelman College. After he took this job, he became active in the civil rights movement of the 1960s. He also protested the Vietnam and Iraq wars, partly because he regretted killing innocent civilians in Europe as a soldier.

Unlike typical history books that illustrate historical events from the perspective of powerful people, *A People's History of the United States* celebrated everyday, working people with less power who chose to speak their minds

and tried to improve their lives. Over a million copies of this book have sold, and it was nominated for the National Book Award for the year 1980.

In an interview with *Indy-Kids* in the January/February 2009 issue, Zinn said, "I want young people to know that they do not need to be passive observers of history made by important people—that they can make history themselves, by becoming part of a social movement."

Zazil Davis-Vazquez, age 15, is from Queens, NY

## your turn

### What do you like about playing sports?

IndyKids asked these girls what sports they play and what they like about playing sports. Compiled by Judi Cheng, Ivanna Coello and Mariah Carroll.



I play basketball. I like to shoot the ball.

**Yahaira Astudillo, 9, Corona, NY**



I like to play sports because I like to exercise and it's fun. I also like gymnastics because I like to flip around and I love to compete in competitions.

**Davia D., 9, Hopewell Junction, NY**



I like swimming. It builds your strength and keeps you active.

**Jane Min, 13, Queens, NY**



I am a basketball player. It makes me feel happy and excited. I get to see what skills I need to improve on. I play and learn.

**Raihanata Barry, 12, Harlem, NY**



I love playing baseball because it is fun and a good way to meet new people.

**Annie Schwenk, 12, Gurnee, IL**



### Someday, you could be a } Playwright just like: Daniel Carlton

By CARLI SMITH

**A**s a playwright and community advocate, Daniel Carlton combines his experience in theater with his passion for social change. Daniel is working with a small community of women in central Mexico on a play about the effects of immigration on Mexican families. He wrote and directed the play for the women to perform on tour this spring. Daniel's career allows him to work with communities around the world, using theater to communicate how political decisions and international business affect local ways of life.

**IndyKids:** What are some unique challenges you face as a playwright?

**Daniel Carlton:** The hardest thing about this type of theater is building the audience. Unlike most types of entertainment, it's not just about pleasing people. Sometimes when you want to change things, you have to tell people stuff they don't want to hear. But when we see problems in the world, we can't remain silent.

**IK:** How important is it that your career helps bring about world change?

**DC:** The Greeks invented theater, and their word for actor translates to "maker of ethics," so I've always felt a responsibility to use my work to try to make the world better. Telling stories makes us human, and sharing stories reminds us that other people are too. Justice and compassion are what theater is about.

**IK:** What education path or real-world experiences should young people seek out if they want to become a playwright?

**DC:** See every performance. Read every book. Act in every school play. Most importantly, really listen when people talk, especially people you don't agree with. Theater is about fighting for a point of view, and a playwright needs to see that conflict from both sides.

## letters

I think berry picking is bad for children because they are using heavy machines and could get hurt. I think it's bad that people have child labor in the United States because I thought America was trying to stop child labor.

**Antonio Donato, 5th grade, Long Island City, NY**



Arresting a kid for throwing a tantrum? [in the article "When Food Fights Lead To Jail"] Sure, tantrums are annoying, but arresting a kid for doing it is wrong. Imagine that you are that girl's parents and then you find out that your daughter has been arrested at school! It's horrible!

**Max Bowers, 5th grade, San Francisco, CA**

When I read the article, "Obama Orders 30,000 More Soldiers to Afghanistan," I was really able to get lost in it because I was able to feel what the innocent people who had lost their families were feeling. I learned what other people in my family thought, too.

**Maya Winshell, 5th grade, San Francisco, CA**

I think kids should have some rights. I think children should have the right to choose their own religion and career, although parents should have a say in what their kids do. Even though kids should have rights, I think parents should have control in some things in their child's life.

**Ivana Manuel, 5th grade, Long Island City, NY**

**WRITE TO INDYKIDS!**  
Send an email to: [indykids@indymedia.org](mailto:indykids@indymedia.org), or grab a pencil and write to: *IndyKids*, P.O. Box 2281, New York NY 10163

I think the government has noodle-brain to let the children do this job [Berry Blues: Child labor widespread on U.S. farms]. I feel this is very awful. Because they are just children.

**Wen Zhong Wu, Tenzer GED Plus School, New York, NY**

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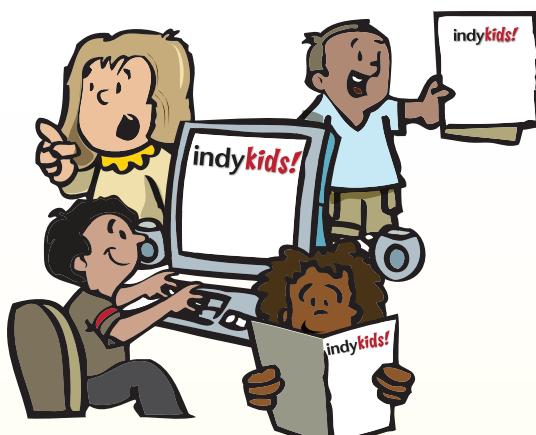


## Sudoku

		1	
3		?	
			4
4	2		

Sudoku is a type of number game. You use logic and problem solving, not math, to solve it! Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 2X2 box contains the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4, with no repeats. Each Sudoku puzzle has just one solution.

Need a hint? Try to solve the question marks first. Want more help? Read "Play Sudoku" at [IndyKids.org](http://IndyKids.org)!

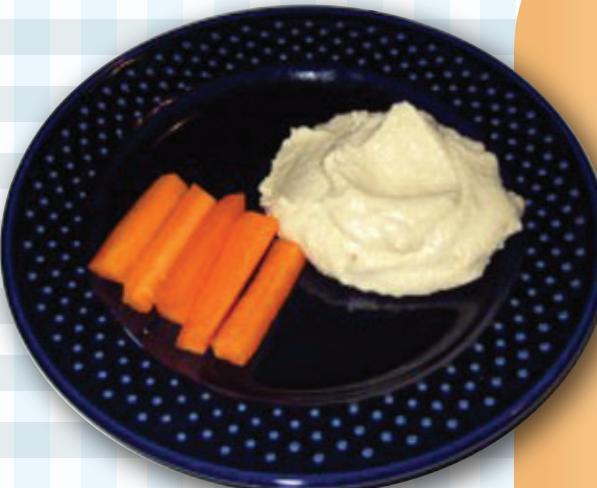


GARY MARTIN

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## Hummus (Chickpea dip)

So creamy, delicious and good for you too! Eat hummus cold with pita bread or raw veggies.

Put in a blender:

2 cans (15.5 oz. each) chickpeas  
2 or 3 cloves garlic  
1/4 cup lemon juice  
1/4 cup tahini (ground sesame)

Purée till smooth. Serve with a little olive oil and salt or cumin on top.



WORLD-TELEGRAM

## WHO AM I?

1. I was born in Clarksville, Tennessee, in 1940 and caught the poliovirus, which left me crippled during my childhood.
2. I recovered from my disability at the age of 12, and I went to the 1956 Olympic games and won a bronze medal in running. I went again in 1960 when I was 20 years old and won three gold medals, also in running.
3. I was known for a time as the "fastest woman in history."
4. I died in 1994 of brain and throat cancer.

REMY STEINECKER, WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM



Angelina Jolie

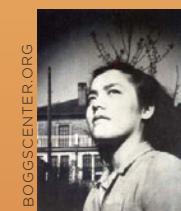


Dolores Huerta



Venus and Serena Williams

FLICKR, GALAWEBDESIGN



Grace Lee Boggs



Sonia Sotomayor

E.

## Women Who Make a Difference!

See if you can match these famous women!

1. My sister and I are tennis champions and have used our success to raise awareness of our sport.
2. I am a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Goodwill Ambassador. I have done humanitarian work in places all over the world, including Tanzania, Sri Lanka and Sierra Leone.
3. In August of 2009, President Obama appointed me to the Supreme Court, making me the first Hispanic female Supreme Court Justice.
4. I am a Chinese-American anti-racism activist and feminist who played an important role in the civil rights movement of the 1960s.
5. I am a Latina labor activist and organizer of Farm Workers. I am a co-founder of the United Farmworkers of America.

A.



Dolores Huerta

FLICKR, GALAWEBDESIGN



Venus and Serena Williams